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## National Park Service News Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – September 22, 2004 **David Barna 202 208-6843**Gerry Gaumer 202 208-6843

## Celebrate the American Presidency in America's National Parks

(Washington, D.C.) --- How much do you know about the men who have served this nation as President? Do you know where they came from, what led them to the presidency or what happened to them after? As American's consider their choice of candidate for this year's presidential election, what better way to celebrate and learn about the American Presidency than by visiting a national park. The National Park Service (NPS) has the honor of preserving and managing numerous areas that commemorate the birthplaces, homes, and historic events associated with many of our presidents.

"I invite everyone to come celebrate the American Presidency this election year at one of the many diverse sites in the National Park System," said Fran Mainella, Director of the National Park Service. "The personal struggles, ideals, and accomplishments of many of the men who served as President of the United States are commemorated throughout the National Park System. Our national parks are open and our welcome mat is out."

The National Park Service has developed and made available in time for this years' presidential election, a web site to help visitors learn about NPS sites they can visit to find out about our past presidents and the job of President of the United States. By visiting the *Celebrate the American Presidency in America's National Parks* website at: <a href="http://www.nps.gov/pub\_aff/pres/celebrate.htm">http://www.nps.gov/pub\_aff/pres/celebrate.htm</a>, people can learn of the many special places managed by the NPS that celebrate and commemorate our past presidents. In addition to a list of parks, the web site includes information and web links to books and documents related to the theme of the Presidency, an overview and list of several related national park sites, and presidential trivia.

To learn more about the men who have served America as President and about the National Park Service and to gain a better understanding of our nation's past, present, and future, visit the *Celebrate The American Presidency in America's National Parks* website, and visit a national park.

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## EXPERIENCE YOUR AMERICATM

The National Park Service cares for special places saved by the American people so that all may experience our heritage.